

Bloomfield Citizen.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL
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THE CITIZEN solicits contributions from the general public on any subject—political, religious, educational, or social—so long as they do not contain any personal attacks.

All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith. Advertisements for insertion in the current week must be in hand not later than Friday noon.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1892.

APPROPRIATIONS.

On Monday evening, April 4, will be held the most important meeting of the year as regards the administration of the township business. It is a meeting which should interest not only every taxpayer, but every resident of the township—interest them to the extent of being present. The report of the Township Committee of the past year will be presented and appropriations for the coming year will be recommended. The action taken by this meeting will affect the comfort, convenience and pocket-book of every citizen.

It is a mistaken idea, and yet a very prevalent one, that only a hundred or so of the large taxpayers are concerned with the tax levy. The Collector, Assessor and others who come in close contact with the business of levying and collecting taxes, know that an increase of one-half of one per cent. in the tax rate causes much greater protest from those paying less than twenty-five dollars than from those who pay more than one hundred. And yet strange to say, the small taxpayers who complain so loudly and so bitterly in the fall, sit quietly by in the spring, without making the slightest protest against the voting of appropriations of which they entirely disapprove. Thousands of dollars are voted in the spring of every year, which a large majority are opposed to because—well the reason of it is beyond our comprehension. As an example of an appropriation, which eighty per cent. of the taxpayers disapproved of, and which, notwithstanding, not one openly opposed, we might mention the three thousand dollars illegally appropriated and spent for the purchase of a house and lot at the entrance of Newark Avenue.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION.

The most enthusiastic friend of the Fire Department must admit that the citizens of Bloomfield have thoroughly appreciated its work and given it the most generous support, both as individuals and in their collective capacity as a township. It would be a matter of interest if the spokesman of the Fire Department, at the meeting Monday night, would give the number of thousands of dollars which the Fire Department has cost up to date, including in his statement the amounts raised by private subscription, proceeds of fairs and appropriations by the township.

But now if the friends of the Fire Department (or perhaps we should say the friends of a very large appropriation, for we believe the friends of the Department would include all the people) would take pains to inquire, they would find that a great many taxpayers are asking whether the Department could not be run efficiently with the expenditure of less instead of more money.

We have an idea that the appropriation for the Fire Department will be calmly but carefully and critically considered this year. Politics, except in the minds of a few individuals, will be gently but firmly eliminated. He who runs may read that there is more than a little dissatisfaction abroad with the directions in which the township money has flowed, and the amount actually needed by the Fire Department will come in for its share of attention by the voters next Monday night, if we mistake not. Therefore, we would in the most friendly spirit, earnestly advise that he who is to present the needs of the Fire Department be very fully prepared with facts and figures. Three thousand five hundred dollars for fire purposes, it must be confessed, seems rather startling; but it would be very foolish for us or anyone to attempt to decide, upon the facts at present in our possession, whether this be a proper or an improper amount.

In this connection it would be well for some one to be prepared next Monday night to say how many residents of the town are now exempt by reason of service in the Fire Department to the amount of five hundred dollars valuation, how many active members there are in each company, how many men usually compose a company in Newark city, how

many fires, and how many alarms there have been this last year, how many in the daytime during city business hours, how many at night, how much actual service is required to obtain exemption, and what are the various items of expense of maintaining the Department which make up the grand total.

We get numerous inquiries concerning such points as these, and are entirely unable to answer them.

Some thoughtless, some selfish, and some evil-minded persons will doubtless call the asking of such questions as these an "attack" on the Fire Department. The very best and safest friends of the Department realize that the very best policy dictates the taking of the public very fully and openly into the confidence of the Fire Department.

ROAD APPROPRIATION.

Without attempting to answer it, we ask this question: Is it good policy to throw an apple of discord in the shape of a large and illegal appropriation for road construction in the midst of the incoming Township Committee? A law passed March 7, 1892, amending an act of 1891, limits the road assessment to one per cent. of the valuation. The distribution of the road-construction money has caused increasing bitterness between sections for several years past. In view of the law above mentioned, is it not reasonably sure that the dissatisfied will certify the tax levy and upset it, if it be not made according to law? One more question: If we are to have an illegal appropriation, would it prevent disastrous results if the Town Meeting and the political conventions following it should distribute the money as well as appropriate it?

AT THE CHURCHES.

First Presbyterian.
The Rev. H. W. Ballantine, D.D., pastor. Services to-morrow at 10.30 A. M. and 7.30 P. M. Sunday-school at 12 M. Young People's meeting every Monday evening at 8 o'clock. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at the same hour.

To-morrow at the morning service Mr. L. H. Crowell will be ordained as Elder, and in place of the usual evening service there will be held the annual meeting of the Society of Benevolence, at which reports of all the church work of the past year will be read.

Westminster Presbyterian.
The final preaching services will be held in the chapel to-morrow at 10.30 and 7.30. Sunday-school as usual, and Young People's prayer meeting at 6.45. All welcomed.

German Presbyterian.
Sunday services: Preaching by the pastor, the Rev. H. W. Seibert, at 10.30 A. M. and 7.30 P. M. Sunday-school at 2 P. M. Prayer meeting, Tuesday at 8 P. M. Young People's Society, Friday at 8 P. M.

Park Methodist Episcopal.
Services to-morrow at 10.30 A. M. Holy Communion and reception of members at 7.30 P. M. Preaching by the pastor, the Rev. R. B. Collins, Sunday-school at noon. Epworth League prayer meeting at 6.45 P. M. Leader, Mr. C. E. Van Winkle. Children's Hour, Tuesday at 3.30 P. M.

Watessing Methodist Episcopal.
Preaching by the Rev. Mr. Miles at 10.30 and 7.30. Sunday-school at 2.30. Young People's meeting at 6.45. Seats free. All welcome.

First Baptist.
The Rev. Chas. A. Cook pastor. Services at 10.30 A. M. and 7.30 P. M. Subject in the morning, "A Gospel Standing." Evening, "Looking the Right Way." Sunday-school and Bible Classes in separate class rooms at 12 o'clock. Seats free. All are invited.

Glen Ridge Congregational.
Services at 10.30 A. M. and 7.45 P. M. Sunday-school at 3 o'clock. Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor at 7 o'clock, opening with service of song.

Christ Episcopal.
Rev. Edwin A. White, Rector. Morning Prayer and Litany, 10 A. M. Sermon and Celebration of the Holy Communion, 10.30 A. M. Sunday-school, 3.00 P. M. Evening prayer with sermon on "The Tenth Commandment" 7.30 P. M. Daily evening prayer except Wednesday 4.45 P. M. Litany Wednesday and Friday morning at 10 o'clock. The usual Wednesday service will be omitted next week (April 6th.).

Adjudged a Lunatic.
Judge Ledwith of Newark on Wednesday morning adjudged Edwin J. Beames of this place a lunatic, and made out papers for his commitment to the County Insane Asylum. Beames is twenty-six years old, and was a bookkeeper. His insanity was caused by softening of the brain.

Charles Johns of Fort Lee shot a bird the other day that is puzzling the taxidermists and naturalists in the vicinity. The head and beak are like those of a pigeon. It has blue-jay wings and tail, and the breast and body of a pheasant. It is about the size of a dove. Some think it is a cross between three birds, an instance which naturalists say is extremely rare among wild birds. Mr. Johns says the bird uttered a very peculiar cry, which attracted his attention. The bird is stuffed and on exhibition.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Economy of Bonding.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:
Sir: In the following table will be found the annual cost to taxpayers should the township issue bonds to the amount of \$200,000 for the construction of stone roads—bonds to run twenty-five years, interest at the rate of 4 per cent., and \$8,000 of the principal to be paid yearly:

	Amt. of bonds.	Prin'l paid.	Int'l paid.	Wth cost.
1st year.....	\$200,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$16,000
2d year.....	192,000	8,000	7,900	15,900
3d year.....	184,000	8,000	7,800	15,800
4th year.....	176,000	8,000	7,700	15,700
5th year.....	168,000	8,000	7,600	15,600
6th year.....	160,000	8,000	7,500	15,500
7th year.....	152,000	8,000	7,400	15,400
8th year.....	144,000	8,000	7,300	15,300
9th year.....	136,000	8,000	7,200	15,200
10th year.....	128,000	8,000	7,100	15,100
11th year.....	120,000	8,000	7,000	15,000
12th year.....	112,000	8,000	6,900	14,900
13th year.....	104,000	8,000	6,800	14,800
14th year.....	96,000	8,000	6,700	14,700
15th year.....	88,000	8,000	6,600	14,600
16th year.....	80,000	8,000	6,500	14,500
17th year.....	72,000	8,000	6,400	14,400
18th year.....	64,000	8,000	6,300	14,300
19th year.....	56,000	8,000	6,200	14,200
20th year.....	48,000	8,000	6,100	14,100
21st year.....	40,000	8,000	6,000	14,000
22d year.....	32,000	8,000	5,900	13,900
23d year.....	24,000	8,000	5,800	13,800
24th year.....	16,000	8,000	5,700	13,700
25th year.....	8,000	8,000	5,600	13,600

Average cost per year, \$12,107.35.

GLEN RIDGE, March 30.

LAST NIGHT'S MEETING.

At the meeting of the Township Committee last night, Mr. Halfpenny of the Sewer Committee presented a report of the progress being made on the outlet sewer. He quoted from the report made to the Orange Sewer Committee on Wednesday night by Engineer Bassett, which was as follows:

"Concerning the outlet section, the totals of cost on the basis of the estimated quantities are:
Lee, Smith & Co. \$134,747.50
McGovern & Malone 183,125.00
Acoc & Siddell 191,500.00
Sandford, Stillman & Co. 192,600.00
It will be seen that Lee, Smith & Co. are very much below the other bidders who are grouped together within less than \$9,000 of each other. Two items in Lee, Smith & Co.'s bid deserve special attention. They propose to furnish timber foundations and sheathing left in trench for \$3 per 1,000, while they ask \$4.60 a yard for rock excavated, and \$90 a ton for iron pipe used. It is said that the price for timber was an error, but the company should be held to their proposal even were the error a certainty, particularly in view of the fact that the price for rock is much in excess of its cost of removal. If larger quantities of rock in excess of the 3,000 yards allowed in the estimated quantities are encountered on the work the company would be paid an abnormal profit for such work, while on the other hand if large quantities of timber are required the city, under their bid, would be a substantial gainer. In view of the fact that their bid is more than \$48,000 below the next bidder and somewhat below the estimated cost of the work, I can see no reason why the Committee should not recommend the acceptance of their proposal. I advise. The total cost of the various bids for the quantities determined, separated from the allowance for extras, are as follows:

	Determined quantities.	Extras.
Lee, Smith & Co.	\$97,132.50	\$37,615.00
McGovern & Malone	135,400.00	47,725.00
Acoc & Siddell	140,105.00	51,395.00
Sandford & Stillman Co.	136,475.00	56,125.00

"Under Lee, Smith & Co.'s bid it is estimated that the cost of the outlet line to the city of Orange would amount to \$85,000, to which must be added the cost of right of way and property and such additional expenses as are forced upon the work by reason of the obstacles placed in its way by other municipalities. As these expenses would probably have been as great had the city undertaken the work alone, it follows that the city will save under this bid by reason of the union contract with Montclair and Bloomfield approximately \$30,000. The cost of a separate outlet line for Orange alone, as determined by previous bids, would have been between \$115,000 and \$120,000. No better endorsement of the agreement made with Montclair and Bloomfield can be desired."

Superintendent Hinckley of the County Insane Asylum informed the Committee that Nicholas Dreyfuss from this town was at the asylum under the Temporary Custody Act, and he desired the Committee to take action on the case. It was referred to Poormaster Voorhes.

Chairman Gilbert called attention to the fact that the gas contract for next year contained no provision for new gas mains. The contract was referred to the Gas Committee for amendment.

A letter was read from Mr. Seibert asking for an executive session of the Committee to settle the tax matter. It will probably be held on Wednesday night.

An ancient deed was put on record on Tuesday in the Union County Clerk's office, at Elizabeth. It was made on January 19, 1761, and conveyed six and nine-tenths acres of land in the present township of Linden to Justus Morris, yeoman. The deed was made by Jonathan Hampton, high sheriff of the borough. The consideration was £8 and 6 shillings.

R. E. Heckel & Sons have issued a neat little book, containing all the railroad timetables and other useful information, which they are presenting to their customers.

Freedom of the Press.
The activity of the restless German Emperor, says the N. Y. World, never showed itself in a more mischievous shape than when it took the form of persecuting the press for telling the truth. The Imperial power is strong enough to seize a single newspaper office and punish one editor, but the struggle between imperialism and the freedom of the press can have but one end, and that end is hastened by every conflict. The World does not say, but it is evident the editor is of the opinion that Emperor William would profit by wearing Edward's "Common Sense" Shoes, from 270 and 272 Greenwich Street, New York.

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Both Mr. Holmes and Mr. Klein are Graduate Opticians, and are as capable of examining your eyes as the best physician in Essex County.

Below we print a Schedule of Prices of Spectacles and Eyeglasses, showing prices charged elsewhere, and our own prices for same goods.

	Prices Elsewhere.	Our Prices.
Public Spectacles, best quality \$2.50	\$1.85	\$1.85
Public Spectacles, 2.50	1.85	1.85
Rubber Rimmed Eyeglasses.....	25	14
Rubber Rimmed Eyeglasses.....	50	30
Cork Nose.....	1.00	.40
Shell Rimmed Eyeglasses.....	1.50	1.20
Steel Rimmed Eyeglasses, best quality.....	4.00	3.50
Gold Rimmed Eyeglasses.....	4.00	3.00
Gold Spectacles.....	6.00 to 10.00	3.50 to 8.00
Gold Spectacles, 14k.....	6.00 to 10.00	3.50 to 8.00
Skeleton Eyeglasses.....	1.00	.40
Steel Spectacles, 1st qual 1.00 to 2.00	.75 to 1.49	
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Fountain Syringes.
Packed in pasteboard boxes 3 Hard Rubber Pipes 1 quart, 38c., prices asked elsewhere, \$1.30 to \$2.00. 2 " 1.00 " 1.75 to 2.25
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" 1.79 " " 2.25 to 2.75

Bulb Syringes.
Pasteboard box, 2 metal Pipes, 38c.; elsewhere 50c. to 60c.
Pasteboard box, 3 Hard Rubber Pipes, 67c.; elsewhere \$1 to \$1.25.
Wooden box, 4 Hard Rubber Pipes, 98c.; elsewhere \$1.50 to \$2.

Atomizers.
48c. to \$1.50..... prices elsewhere 75c. to \$3.00
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Hot Water Bottles.
1 quart, \$1.00..... prices elsewhere, \$1.40 to \$1.75
2 " 1.10 " " 1.50 to 1.75
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THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN
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1892